



For Release: Wednesday, December 30, 2020

20-2326-NEW

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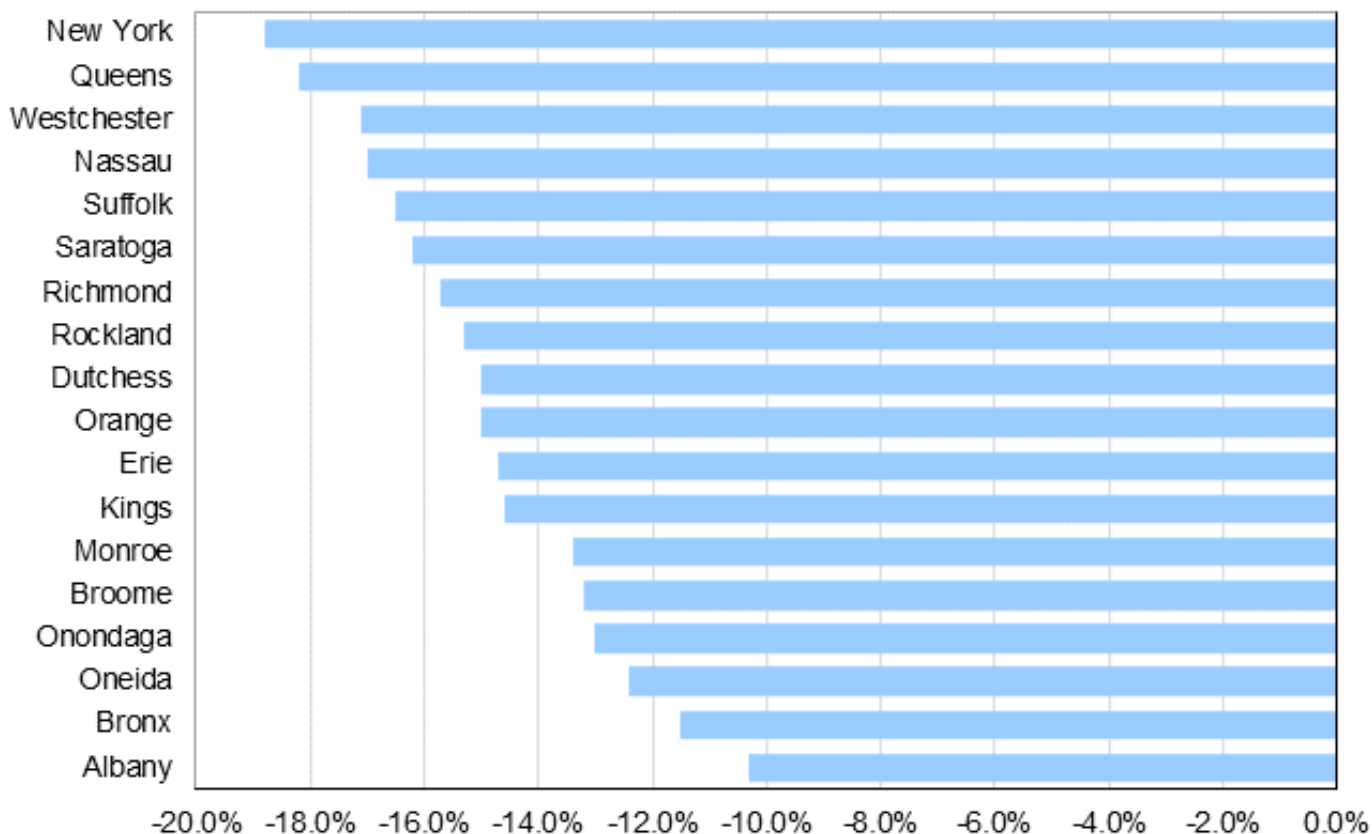
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County Employment and Wages in New York — Second Quarter 2020

Employment fell in all 18 of the largest counties in New York from June 2019 to June 2020, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today. (Large counties are those with annual average employment levels of 75,000 or more in 2019.) Chief Regional Economist Martin Kohli noted that New York and Queens Counties had the largest over-the-year decreases in employment at 18.8 percent and 18.2 percent, respectively. (See [chart 1](#) and [table 1](#).)

Chart 1. Over-the-year percent change in covered employment among the largest counties in New York, June 2020



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

National employment decreased 9.4 percent over the year, with all of the 357 largest U.S. counties reporting declines. Atlantic, NJ, had the largest over-the-year decrease in employment with a loss of 34.2 percent. Employment in most of the country was impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic and efforts to contain it.

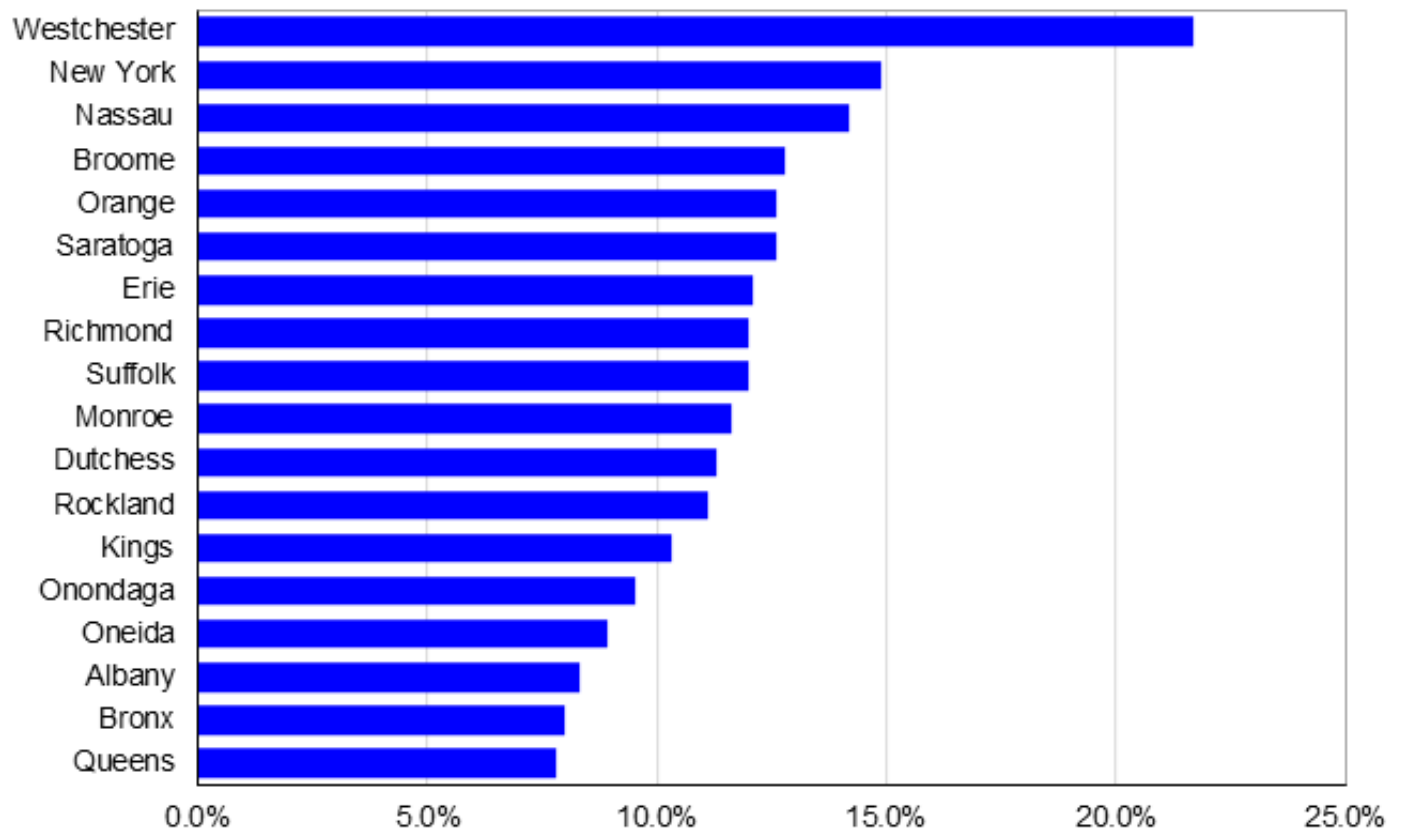
Among the 18 largest counties in New York, employment was highest in New York County (2,048,700), followed by Kings (688,200), Queens (592,500), Suffolk (579,500), and Nassau (533,100). Together, the 18 largest New York counties accounted for 85.7 percent of total employment within the state. Nationwide, the 357 largest counties made up 72.9 percent of total U.S. employment.

Employment and wage levels (but not over-the-year changes) are also available for the 44 counties in New York with employment levels below 75,000. Wage levels in 41 of the 44 smaller counties were below the national average in the second quarter of 2020. (See [table 2](#).)

Large county wage changes

All 18 large New York counties reported average weekly wage gains from the second quarter of 2019 to the second quarter of 2020. (See [chart 2](#).) Fifteen counties had growth rates that were above the national rate of 8.6 percent. Westchester County's 21.7-percent wage growth ranked second among the nation's 357 largest counties. New York County ranked 11th and Nassau County ranked 15th in the nation with over-the-year wage increases of 14.9 percent and 14.2 percent, respectively. Below-average gains were reported in Albany County (+8.3 percent), Bronx County (+8.0 percent), and Queens County (+7.8 percent).

Chart 2. Over-the-year percent change in covered average weekly wages among the largest counties in New York, second quarter 2020



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Among the 357 largest counties in the United States, 352 had over-the-year wage increases. The increases in average weekly wages largely reflect substantial employment loss among lower-paid industries. Atlantic, NJ, had the largest percentage wage increase (+22.5 percent). Five large counties had wage declines during the period. Ector, TX, had the largest over-the-year percentage decrease (-6.6 percent).

Large county average weekly wages

New York County had the highest average weekly wage in the state at \$2,427 and ranked fourth among the 357 largest U.S. counties. Westchester County (\$1,721) ranked 13th. Five additional counties (Albany, Bronx, Dutchess, Nassau, and Suffolk) had average weekly wages that placed in the top 100 nationwide. Broome (\$1,010) and Oneida (\$947) reported the lowest average weekly wages among the state's large counties and ranked 226th and 283rd, respectively.

Among the largest U.S. counties, 101 reported average weekly wages above the U.S. average in the second quarter of 2020. Santa Clara, CA, had the highest average weekly wage at \$3,045. Average weekly wages were at or below the national average in 256 counties. At \$698 a week, Cameron, TX, had the lowest average weekly wage.

Average weekly wages in New York's smaller counties

Forty-one of New York's 44 counties with employment below 75,000 had average weekly wages below the national average of \$1,188. Rensselaer (\$1,390), Schenectady (\$1,248) and Steuben (\$1,203) were the exceptions. (See [table 2](#).) Yates and Hamilton Counties reported the lowest average weekly wages at \$786 and \$798, respectively.

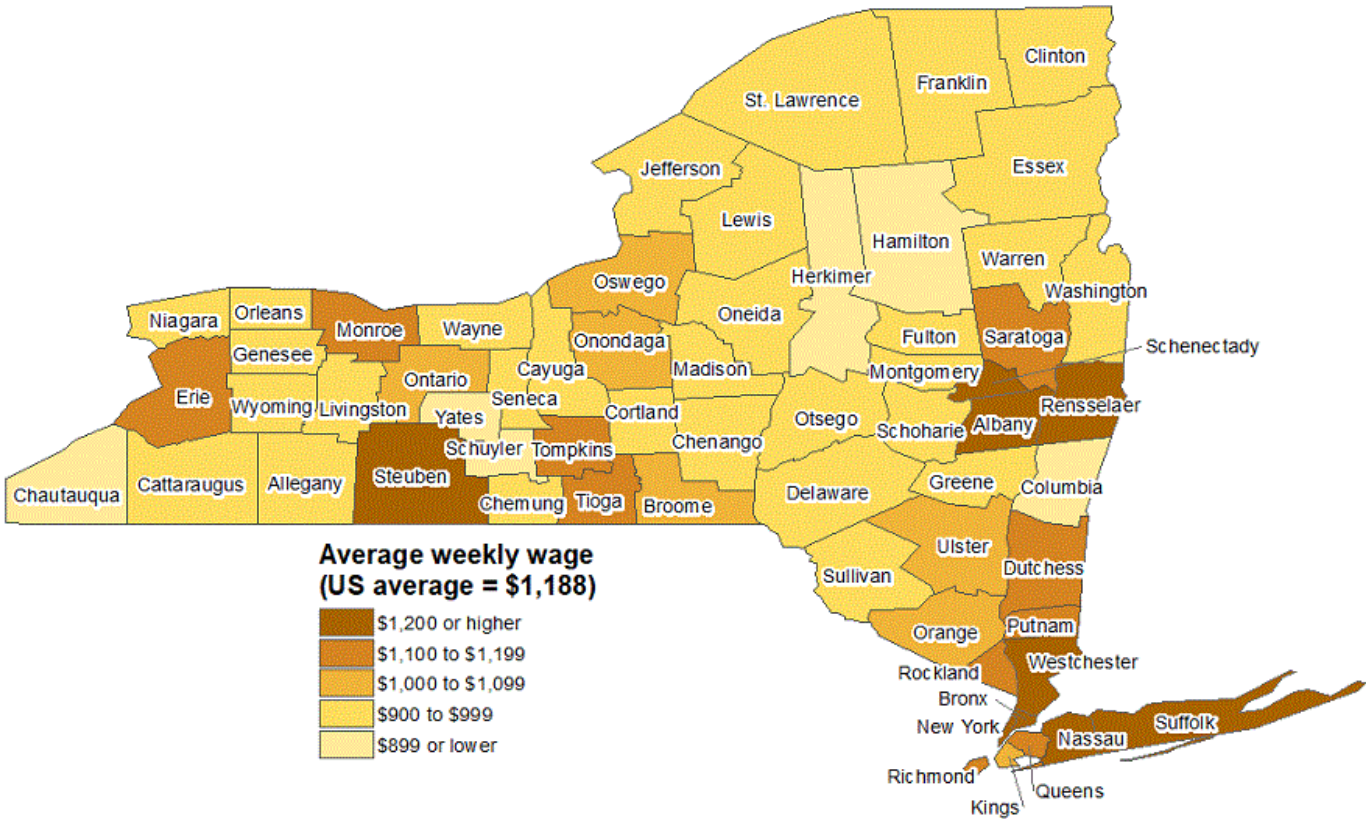
When all 62 counties in New York were considered, all but 19 had wages below \$1,100. Seven counties reported average weekly wages from \$1,000 to \$1,099, and 30 had wages from \$900 to \$999. The six counties with the lowest average weekly wages, under \$900, were small upstate counties, primarily located in the northern and western parts of the state. (See [chart 3](#).)

Additional statistics and other information

QCEW data for states have been included in this release in [table 3](#). For additional information about quarterly employment and wages data, please read the [Technical Note](#) or visit www.bls.gov/cew.

Employment and Wages Annual Averages Online features comprehensive information by detailed industry on establishments, employment, and wages for the nation and all states. The 2019 edition of this publication was published in September 2020. Tables and additional content from the 2019 edition of *Employment and Wages Annual Averages Online* are available at www.bls.gov/cew/publications/employment-and-wages-annual-averages/2019/home.htm. The 2020 edition of *Employment and Wages Annual Averages Online* will be available in September 2021.

Chart 3. Average weekly wages by county in New York State, second quarter 2020



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

The County Employment and Wages release for third quarter 2020 is scheduled to be released on Wednesday, February 24, 2021. The County Employment and Wages full data update for third quarter 2020 is scheduled to be released on Tuesday, March 9, 2021.

Coronavirus (COVID-19) Pandemic Impact on Second Quarter 2020 QCEW Data

Response rate tables for the second quarter of 2020 are available at www.bls.gov/covid19/county-employment-and-wages-covid-19-impact-second-quarter-2020.htm. For more information about the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic on QCEW data, see www.bls.gov/covid19/effects-of-covid-19-pandemic-on-county-employment-and-wages-data.htm.

Special Notice: Imputation Methodology Improvements

QCEW implemented improvements to imputation methodology, effective with second quarter 2020 processing. For more information on QCEW imputation methodology and the impact of the improved methods, see www.bls.gov/cew/additional-resources/imputation-methodology.htm.

Special Notice: Business Response Survey

The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics has developed new data on how U.S. businesses changed their operations and employment since the onset of the novel coronavirus through September 2020. Data for the Business Response Survey to the Coronavirus Pandemic were released on December 7, 2020. For more information, please visit: www.bls.gov/brs/.

Technical Note

Average weekly wage data by county are compiled under the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW) program, also known as the ES-202 program. The data are derived from summaries of employment and total pay of workers covered by state and federal unemployment insurance (UI) legislation and provided by State Workforce Agencies (SWAs). The average weekly wage values are calculated by dividing quarterly total wages by the average of the three monthly employment levels of those covered by UI programs. The result is then divided by 13, the number of weeks in a quarter. It is to be noted, therefore, that over-the-year wage changes for geographic areas may reflect shifts in the composition of employment by industry, occupation, and such other factors as hours of work. Thus, wages may vary among counties, metropolitan areas, or states for reasons other than changes in the average wage level. Data for all states, Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSAs), counties, and the nation are available on the BLS web site at www.bls.gov/cew. However, data in QCEW press releases have been revised and may not match the data contained on the Bureau's web site.

QCEW data are not designed as a time series. QCEW data are simply the sums of individual establishment records reflecting the number of establishments that exist in a county or industry at a point in time. Establishments can move in or out of a county or industry for a number of reasons—some reflecting economic events, others reflecting administrative changes.

The preliminary QCEW data presented in this release may differ from data released by the individual states as well as from the data presented on the BLS web site. These potential differences result from the states' continuing receipt, review and editing of UI data over time. On the other hand, differences between data in this release and the data found on the BLS web site are the result of adjustments made to improve over-the-year comparisons. Specifically, these adjustments account for administrative (noneconomic) changes such as a correction to a previously reported location or industry classification. Adjusting for these administrative

changes allows users to more accurately assess changes of an economic nature (such as a firm moving from one county to another or changing its primary economic activity) over a 12-month period. Currently, adjusted data are available only from BLS press releases.

Information in this release will be made available to individuals with sensory impairments upon request. Voice phone: (202) 691-5200; Federal Relay Service: (800) 877-8339.

Table 1. Covered employment and wages in the United States and the 18 largest counties in New York, second quarter 2020

Area	Establishments, second quarter 2020 (thousands)	Employment			Average weekly wage ⁽¹⁾			
		June 2020 (thousands)	Percent change, June 2019–20 ⁽²⁾	National ranking by percent change ⁽³⁾	Second quarter 2020	National ranking by level ⁽³⁾	Percent change, second quarter 2019–20 ⁽²⁾	National ranking by percent change ⁽³⁾
United States ⁽⁴⁾	10,451.0	135,114.4	-9.4	--	\$1,188	--	8.6	--
New York	652.0	8,142.6	-15.9	--	1,520	3	12.8	4
Albany	10.4	211.1	-10.3	219	1,277	69	8.3	177
Bronx	19.2	288.0	-11.5	256	1,204	92	8.0	193
Broome	4.4	75.6	-13.2	301	1,010	226	12.8	24
Dutchess	8.5	98.1	-15.0	326	1,199	94	11.3	68
Erie	24.5	407.8	-14.7	322	1,106	160	12.1	41
Kings	66.6	688.2	-14.6	320	1,058	192	10.3	96
Monroe	18.9	344.3	-13.4	302	1,126	144	11.6	57
Nassau	54.5	533.1	-17.0	338	1,388	37	14.2	15
New York	131.1	2,048.7	-18.8	347	2,427	4	14.9	11
Oneida	5.3	94.4	-12.4	277	947	283	8.9	140
Onondaga	12.7	221.5	-13.0	296	1,095	166	9.5	116
Orange	10.8	129.5	-15.0	326	1,085	174	12.6	30
Queens	54.1	592.5	-18.2	346	1,174	109	7.8	204
Richmond	10.1	110.1	-15.7	334	1,158	118	12.0	43
Rockland	11.3	112.2	-15.3	330	1,154	121	11.1	76
Saratoga	6.1	78.0	-16.2	335	1,170	111	12.6	30
Suffolk	53.8	579.5	-16.5	336	1,296	62	12.0	43
Westchester	36.4	367.7	-17.1	340	1,721	13	21.7	2

Footnotes:

(1) Average weekly wages were calculated using unrounded data.

(2) Percent changes were computed from quarterly employment and pay data adjusted for noneconomic county reclassifications.

(3) Ranking does not include data for Puerto Rico or the Virgin Islands.

(4) Totals for the United States do not include data for Puerto Rico or the Virgin Islands.

Note: Data are preliminary. Covered employment and wages includes workers covered by Unemployment Insurance (UI) and Unemployment Compensation for Federal Employees (UCFE) programs.

Table 2. Covered employment and wages in the United States and all counties in New York, second quarter 2020

Area	Employment June 2020	Average weekly wage(1)
United States(2)	135,114,354	\$1,188
New York	8,142,573	1,520
Albany	211,112	1,277
Allegany	11,804	914
Bronx	288,005	1,204
Broome	75,641	1,010
Cattaraugus	24,214	928
Cayuga	23,026	965
Chautauqua	41,805	896
Chemung	31,861	990
Chenango	16,309	972
Clinton	30,775	971
Columbia	19,725	888
Cortland	16,262	917
Delaware	13,728	996
Dutchess	98,087	1,199
Erie	407,798	1,106
Essex	12,764	915
Franklin	15,871	990
Fulton	15,528	902
Genesee	21,290	935
Greene	13,238	946
Hamilton	1,686	798
Herkimer	15,823	862
Jefferson	37,174	930
Kings	688,161	1,058
Lewis	6,148	925
Livingston	18,230	900
Madison	18,885	930
Monroe	344,294	1,126
Montgomery	17,434	917
Nassau	533,080	1,388
New York	2,048,709	2,427
Niagara	60,971	948
Oneida	94,351	947
Onondaga	221,466	1,095
Ontario	46,795	1,051
Orange	129,512	1,085
Orleans	10,856	950
Oswego	29,852	1,055
Otsego	20,262	993
Putnam	23,824	1,180
Queens	592,512	1,174
Rensselaer	50,486	1,390
Richmond	110,051	1,158
Rockland	112,246	1,154
Saratoga	78,044	1,170
Schenectady	54,212	1,248
Schoharie	7,832	907
Schuyler	4,581	893
Seneca	10,064	978
St. Lawrence	32,741	991
Steuben	33,429	1,203
Suffolk	579,465	1,296
Sullivan	24,837	971
Tioga	11,923	1,139

Note: See footnotes at end of table.

Table 2. Covered employment and wages in the United States and all counties in New York, second quarter 2020 - Continued

Area	Employment June 2020	Average weekly wage ⁽¹⁾
Tompkins	43,881	1,162
Ulster	52,518	1,014
Warren	32,534	966
Washington.....	14,170	969
Wayne	27,628	948
Westchester.....	367,747	1,721
Wyoming	13,074	927
Yates.....	6,528	786

Footnotes

(1) Average weekly wages were calculated using unrounded data.

(2) Totals for the United States do not include data for Puerto Rico or the Virgin Islands.

Note: Includes workers covered by Unemployment Insurance (UI) and Unemployment Compensation for Federal Employees (UCFE) programs. Data are preliminary.

Table 3. Covered employment and wages by state, second quarter 2020

State	Establishments, second quarter 2020 (thousands)	Employment		Average weekly wage ⁽¹⁾			
		June 2020 (thousands)	Percent change, June 2019– 20	Second quarter 2020	National ranking by level	Percent change, second quarter 2019–20	National ranking by percent change
United States ⁽²⁾	10,451.0	135,114.4	-9.4	\$1,188	--	8.6	--
Alabama	131.2	1,868.7	-6.4	964	40	5.9	42
Alaska	22.7	296.2	-12.7	1,195	14	11.2	11
Arizona	170.7	2,708.4	-5.1	1,090	22	7.9	30
Arkansas	93.0	1,156.5	-5.5	924	47	7.3	33
California	1,633.1	15,911.2	-10.2	1,468	4	10.9	12
Colorado	216.4	2,545.9	-8.0	1,226	9	8.7	25
Connecticut	123.4	1,483.6	-12.3	1,407	6	11.3	9
Delaware	34.5	416.0	-9.3	1,156	17	9.0	22
District of Columbia	41.7	701.8	-10.0	1,987	1	11.7	7
Florida	738.0	8,113.8	-7.1	1,032	28	6.6	40
Georgia	307.2	4,196.0	-7.0	1,075	23	5.7	44
Hawaii	45.9	524.9	-20.1	1,108	21	12.0	6
Idaho	67.9	748.3	-2.3	882	50	7.6	32
Illinois	379.6	5,391.8	-11.3	1,218	10	8.6	26
Indiana	171.6	2,865.7	-7.3	960	41	5.6	45
Iowa	104.7	1,458.8	-8.0	978	36	8.4	27
Kansas	90.0	1,306.0	-7.0	969	38	7.1	34
Kentucky	125.4	1,754.0	-8.2	970	37	6.4	41
Louisiana	137.8	1,710.1	-11.0	985	34	6.7	39
Maine	53.8	572.5	-10.8	980	35	12.3	5
Maryland	175.8	2,430.3	-11.2	1,305	8	10.7	13
Massachusetts	263.1	3,178.8	-14.3	1,570	2	14.0	1
Michigan	268.5	3,850.9	-12.9	1,114	20	9.5	16
Minnesota	185.4	2,644.6	-10.5	1,200	13	9.0	22
Mississippi	73.8	1,063.1	-6.4	812	51	5.9	42
Missouri	215.9	2,622.2	-7.5	1,015	32	7.1	34
Montana	51.5	459.5	-4.9	919	48	9.1	19
Nebraska	72.9	932.3	-6.0	960	41	8.0	28
Nevada	85.9	1,191.6	-15.4	1,048	26	9.1	19
New Hampshire	54.8	605.4	-10.5	1,215	12	11.5	8
New Jersey	284.1	3,570.3	-14.6	1,376	7	11.3	9
New Mexico	62.4	757.0	-9.4	958	43	7.8	31
New York	652.0	8,142.6	-15.9	1,520	3	12.8	4
North Carolina	296.2	4,205.4	-6.9	1,038	27	6.9	37
North Dakota	32.4	390.1	-9.7	1,061	24	3.3	51
Ohio	302.3	5,049.8	-8.0	1,031	29	7.0	36
Oklahoma	112.1	1,521.3	-6.3	940	44	4.4	49
Oregon	160.9	1,789.3	-9.6	1,143	19	10.3	15
Pennsylvania	362.8	5,314.5	-11.1	1,170	16	9.2	18
Rhode Island	39.5	429.3	-13.2	1,172	15	13.1	3
South Carolina	144.4	1,991.0	-7.2	928	46	6.9	37
South Dakota	34.7	415.9	-5.9	912	49	9.0	22
Tennessee	171.1	2,847.2	-6.6	1,016	31	5.3	46
Texas	727.4	11,807.1	-6.3	1,156	17	5.0	47
Utah	111.6	1,474.8	-3.0	1,017	30	9.1	19
Vermont	26.1	271.8	-13.6	1,055	25	13.6	2
Virginia	283.3	3,635.2	-8.8	1,218	10	9.4	17
Washington	253.8	3,207.1	-8.4	1,424	5	10.6	14
West Virginia	51.3	634.9	-9.4	933	45	4.9	48
Wisconsin	179.2	2,690.0	-8.7	1,014	33	8.0	28
Wyoming	27.2	260.5	-9.6	965	39	3.7	50
Puerto Rico	46.1	798.7	-7.9	556	(3)	4.7	(3)

Note: See footnotes at end of table.

Table 3. Covered employment and wages by state, second quarter 2020 - Continued

State	Establishments, second quarter 2020 (thousands)	Employment		Average weekly wage ⁽¹⁾			
		June 2020 (thousands)	Percent change, June 2019– 20	Second quarter 2020	National ranking by level	Percent change, second quarter 2019–20	National ranking by percent change
Virgin Islands	3.4	35.4	-7.0	1,016	(3)	6.9	(3)

Footnotes:

(1) Average weekly wages were calculated using unrounded data.

(2) Totals for the United States do not include data for Puerto Rico or the Virgin Islands.

(3) Data not included in the national ranking.

Note: Data are preliminary. Covered employment and wages includes workers covered by Unemployment Insurance (UI) and Unemployment Compensation for Federal Employees (UCFE) programs.